

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE.

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BURIAL MARCH OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARIES.

We give herewith a translation of the burial march that was sung at the funeral of the victims that fell in the opening days of the recent revolution in Russia. The translation is by Mr. A. Bodkin, late secretary of the Russian Association of Sydney, and rendered into English verse by A. S. R.

Loving the People with love unrestrained,
You fell in the struggle with spirit untamed,
That Freedom and Honor and Life might be gained,
And you died for the Cause of the People.

Often you walked in the damp prison cells,
With chains, all rattling like funeral bells,
Twas Capital's judges sent you to those hells,
For your love unrestrained for the People.

But—discretion will come and the People will rise,
Valiant and mighty, with fire in their eyes,
And rekindle anew, freedom's torch ere it dies,
That you live when you died for the People.

We that are following you, brothers, to-day,
Walk as fresh fighters in your noble way,
Good-bye, Comrades, and let come what may,
We will cleave to the Cause of the People.

A FABLE.

There was once a certain man who walked with his child from one town to another.

They had not gone far when they were met by a richly-dressed gentleman, who said he would be their guide as the country was marshy and the way difficult. He demanded a large sum in payment, but as he was very fair-spoken and as the man's mind was occupied in thinking of his own affairs, he accepted the offer.

But the child shrank from the stranger.

Almost at once their guide led them away from the high road—which he said was only suited to simpletons—into a tortuous path.

Presently the child said, "Father, why do our feet sink into the ground?" "Ah," said the father, "you are too simple to understand such things."

But again the boy spoke, "Should we not be safer on the high road?" "Silence," said the father, "We must trust our guide and not ask questions; your remarks are inopportune."

Now by this time they were up to their ankles. Then said the guide, "I must now be raised higher, so that I may see the way; let me get on your back."

"That is reasonable," said the man, so he helped him on to his shoulder.

"Father," said the child, "you are now sinking deeper than ever into the earth; why should we go further with this guide?" Whereupon the guide exclaimed, "This is no time for criticism; we must all be of one opinion," and with that he struck the child such a blow that he fell to the ground stunned. The man was now wild with terror, and could scarcely move. "Your only hope is to push on," said the guide, "I alone can save you; do not question my wisdom."

Thus they struggled forward, but soon they sank up to the man's waist. Then he cried out for help, and would gladly have thrown off his rider and turned back, but he could not. So the bog swal-

THE PASSING SHOW.

By TIREVE YAR.

"Two significant incidents of the week," said the Acting-Premier, Mr. Fuller, "were the refusal of the Port Pirie Smelter men and of the A.W.U. to come into this strike, which is not a fight for unionism at all."

"I have information to-day that definite instructions have been forwarded to the men on the irrigation area by Mr. Bodkin, secretary of the Railway Workers' branch of the A.W.U., that any material arriving at the works is to be handled by members of the union."

"Things that are black in one part of the State have been declared white in other parts. And the incidents I have referred to may be taken as a sign of returning reason."

The incidents that Fuller takes "as a sign of returning reason," will be taken by the wage earner who does reason as another example of stupidity; this in spite of the fact that the union involved is the so-called One Big Union of Australia—the A.W.U.

The A.W.U. has yet to realise THAT AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL.

During the week ended August 26 18 ships of over 1600 tons and five under that tonnage were sunk.

The "Pall Mall Gazette" says the navy is dealing with submarines in an increasingly successful way.—"S.M. Herald."

Those who do not know "Old Granny" may think that she is becoming sarcastic; she's not—it's just a mis-hit in her endeavour to laud out the same old dope.

PATHETIC HUMOR.

A "dangerous strike leader," members of the "Defence Committee," waxing eloquent over the fact that he possesses a permit to travel on SCAB trains.

The endeavours of our Religious Editor to prove that the ham she ate came from a white pig.

The Gay Bird: "I have not had any black meat—last night I had pork sausages."

"But they are black!"
"No, they are not—I bought them in a small goods shop."

The following is taken from a report of Mr. Pagden's speech at the combined meeting held in the Town Hall, which appeared in the "Sun":—

Mr. Pagden said the meeting had been called for the purpose of presenting the truth. The unionists had nothing to hide, and felt no anxiety in inviting the press to be present. (Cheers.) So far as the dispute had gone they had been treated fairly by the newspapers. (Hear, hear, and "No!") They had reported nearly everything they had been asked to. Nevertheless the conflict should be a lesson to unionists to get their own paper.

The clergy had been invited, but owing to the shortness of notice the response had not been good. The invitations were issued because the unions had been involved in such vile misrepresentation through the public press that they wished to provide an opportunity for the public to hear the union view. It had

lowed him up. Neither did the guide escape, for as he was getting away he was met by a wild beast, who killed and devoured him. But the child recovered, regained the high road, and grew up to be a wise man.—Jos. E. Southall in "The Labor Leader."

been said that the men were disloyal, that the strike was promoted by paid agitators. But if it was promoted by anybody it was by the Government. The introduction of the speeding-up system and the methods adopted since to break down the strike proved that the actions of the Government were premeditated or they could not have organised their forces as they have.

How Mr. Pagden can reconcile his statement to the effect that "they had been treated fairly by the newspapers" with his other statement that "the invitations were issued because the unions had been involved in such vile misrepresentation through the public press," is no doubt beyond the comprehension of any ordinary individual.

Even Mr. Pagden should realise that the press from the beginning of this strike has used its influence to bring about a stampede. Like in past strikes, so in this one, the press constitutes a trump card in the hands of oppression—doing its utmost to break down the moral courage of those fighting against the oppressive forces.

Sir John Forrest is feeling very sore over the criticism of the "War Time Profits Bill." He complains that the criticism against it should have been made at the outset, not at the eleventh hour, when the Government has been committed to the principle of the thing. In other words, Sir John and the Government would have been pleased to have received the tip when first the Bill was cited, as they desire to bring in a Bill that will suit those against whom it is directed—the Profit-eers.

The most miserable men in the community yesterday were the national workers at Taronga Park. There was no work for them to do.—"The Sun."

The be and end all of a scab—WORK; no matter how filthy it is—just WORK.

Sydney branch set up last Sunday what is believed to be a record. At their meeting in Liverpool street, in addition to a very large number of wage-plugs, there were also seven policemen, two detectives, and a sub-inspector present. Can any of the branches beat that?

There are still in existence many people who believe that by shortening the hours of labor, many more workers would have to be employed in order to maintain the same amount of production as formerly. Many of the reformers, indeed, suggest a shortening of the working day as a solution of the unemployment problem. For their benefit, we present the following facts:—In the report of the committee appointed by Lloyd George to enquire into the state of health of munition workers, it is stated that "a reduction from 68.2 to 59.7 in the average weekly hours of work by a group of 100 women engaged in the heavy work of turning fuse bodies, resulted in a 23 per cent. increase in hourly output, and a natural rise of 8 per cent. in total weekly output. Further decrease in hours to 56 a week showed not only an equally large product, but a more regular attendance by the women."

To this might be added the testimony of the Under-Secretary of State of the French Ministry: "The experience of war has demonstrated the technical, economical, physiological necessity of the labor laws enacted in times of peace. Under such conditions we find a better grade of manufacture and a more intense production."

Next election time you'll hear the "Hard Labor" politicians peddling some more of these Labor Laws, and offering them as a means of bettering the conditions of the workers—and, yes—I almost forgot to mention it—you'll see the wage-plugs falling over one another to vote for them.

As the office boy persists in saying: "It's a long lone trail," etc.

Recently Messrs. G. Waite and E. Parry, of the S.D.L. (said to be the Slimy Diplomatic League) were charged with making statements prejudicial to recruiting. One of their witnesses Arnold Holmes, late of Melbourne, stated "that he was a 'Free Christian Socialist,' and was the only one of his kind in N.S.W." If anyone in Melbourne has lost anything of the sort, they could, no doubt, have it returned

THE SCAB.

By Reginald Wright Kniffmann.
I claim the Right to Work—
For whatever the Boss will pay;
If the wage is low, why, out you go
And in I come to stay!
I've not your skill,
But I've got the will
To do as my masters say.

I claim the Right to Work—
Till my very soul is raw;
I claim that Right for day and night
So long as a cent I draw;
For when you quit
I earn my bit;
So I'm for a twelve-hour day.

I claim the Right to Work—
In a shop where few men stop;
In dust and smell, on a people's hell,
From five o'clock till five;
Though every breath
Is thick with death,
What matter if I cough?

I force the wages down—
Or the puny to slave and sulk;
Although I quicken the tempo of the day,
Amid the muck and muddle,
Well, what care I
If the workers die?
I claim the Right to Work!

THE EASY ROAD

(An Extract from "Vanity Fair")

"It isn't difficult to be a country gentleman's wife," Rebecca thought. "I think I could be a good woman if I had five thousand a year. I could dawdle about in the nursery and count the apricots on the wall. I could water plants in a greenhouse, and pick off dead leaves from the geraniums. I could ask old women about their rheumatisms, and order half-a-crown's worth of soup for the poor. I shouldn't miss it much, even if I have to send a year. I could even drive out ten miles to dine at a neighbor's, and dress on the fashions of the year before last. I could go to church and keep awake in the great family pew; or go to sleep behind the curtains, and with my veil down, if I only had practice. I could pay everybody if I had but the money. This is what the country here pride themselves upon doing. They look down with pity upon miserable scabners who have none. They think themselves generous if they give our children a fivepound note, and us contemptible if we are without one." And who knows her Rebecca was right in her speculation—and that it was only a question of money and fortune which made the difference between her and an honest woman? If you take temptations into account, who is to say that he is better than his neighbor? A comfortable career of prosperity, if it does not make people honest, at least keeps them so. An alderman coming from a humble feat will not step out of his entrance to shut a leg of mutton; but put him to starve and see if he will not perjure a load. —William Makepeace Thackeray

to them by applying to Luke Jones, Gen. Sec. of the afore-said S.D.L., in Sydney.

A Labor organisation must be perfectly clear upon the fact that politics are not like religion, a private concern, any more than the wages and hours of working men are his private concern. For the same reason that the organisation dictates wages, hours, etc., in the interest of the working class, for that reason must it dictate politics also; and for the same reason that it exonerates the scab in the workshop it must exonerate the scab at the hustings.—Thomas Fraser in the "Workers' Republic," Dublin.

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"The Loyalists"

STRIKE BREAKERS' "RIGHTS."

C.F.C.

The Sydney papers these days are full of articles eulogising a band of 3,000 (or it is 3,000,000?) noble souls, who, springing from RIGHT OUT BACK, have nobly responded to "Duty's call." Fine men they evidently are—perfect physical specimens with eighty-four inch chests and two-foot foreheads—and LOYAL to the backbone. No! friend, they are not on their way to Flanders; they have come to Sydney to break a strike. Incidentally, quite a number of railway and tramway men stand convicted by the same sheets of each possessing a loyal brave heart. Strike-processions, by the way, seem unaware of this fact, if we are to judge by their actions when passing trams and lorries manned by "loyal" labor.

In a crowd, watching one of these processions recently, writer overheard a heated strike discussion, in which one of the disputants, referring to a statement of his opponent, that nine-tenths of the strike-breakers were wage-earners, claimed for the wage-earning strike-breakers the RIGHT to beat down their fellow-workers by filling their vacated jobs—in short, claimed for them the RIGHT to scab.

HAS ANY WAGE-EARNER THIS RIGHT? Let us at once grant that all workers have the LEGAL right to take positions vacated by strikers. But have they any MORAL right or justification? That is another matter altogether. Let us examine the claim by getting to the roots of the trouble.

Industrial "loyalists" are most clearly seen in times of strike, when in the clash of economic interests, the working-class faces the employing or capitalist class. How are these classes situated, as far as THEIR ECONOMIC INTERESTS are concerned? Are their interests identical?

The position of the individual worker and the individual capitalist shows that their interests are not, and cannot, be identical since:—

- 1—Both the capitalist and the worker try to get as much of the proceeds of labor as possible.
- 2—The employer is a BUYER of the commodity, labor-power, while the employee is a SELLER of this commodity—his only asset.
- 3—It is to the employer's advantage to get his jobs done as quickly as possible, while the quicker the job is through, the sooner the worker is jobless.
- 4—After the passage of years, the employer can generally retire, while the worker functioning on his mere "living wage," is so many years nearer the industrial scrap-heap.

These facts show that the INTERESTS OF THE TWO CLASSES in Society are diametrically OPPOSED TO ONE ANOTHER. There can be no "brother-capitalist-brother-labor" sentiment between the working class and the capitalist class, because the former, by its name implies, WORKS, and by the application of its mental and physical energy, produces all wealth, while the capitalist class, creating no wealth, live solely by exploiting the working class.

Lessons in Economics.

By A Student.

No. 3.

CAPITAL TO-DAY.

It is as well to remember that society is in a state of flow, ever evolving. The world does not stand still. This does not mean that the rate of progression is the same in every instance. For instance, England left the feudal system of society three hundred years ago, Germany about fifty years ago, i.e., the feudal junkerdom joined hand and hand with the rising industrial capitalist, and Russia has just emerged from the domination of the feudal system.

Although we have already entered into the ultra-capitalist system of society, it is well to remember that remains of what have previously been dominant systems in their day continue side by side with the present system, modified certainly, and their influence felt in some industries, though not predominant; all industries in their rate of progress and development being profoundly influenced by the present ultra-system of society.

Thus, even to-day in agriculture we have vestiges of the feudal system along with the free competitive form of earlier capitalism, and we also see agriculture dominated, and free competition gives way to attempts at fixed prices by the State, with pooled results, to serve the interests and aims of the industrial overlords.

And, generally speaking, we can see around us in many industries and in some localities the craftsmanship system of production still in vogue, but fast giving way and losing ground to the machine process of production.

There is the free competitive system of capitalism, and the new system of ultra-capitalism in which the competitive stage is passed.

This is the Imperialistic stage.

"There are still men who cite 'the law of supply and demand' on the supreme authority of Adam Smith, as if, since 'The Wealth of Nations' was published in 1776, the world had remained unchanged and experience, as well as study, had been stationary for 140 years. Their knowledge of Adam Smith's work is at least very incomplete. The Scottish sage laid down certain fundamental laws, but he recognised clearly that men might vary their operation by what he called 'conspiracies against the public.' He held that for fair trading the entrepreneur must be actuated by personal interest and there must be free competition. Believing this, he was a caustic critic of joint stock companies, which obscure direct personal interests, and prevent competition, and he attacked the great trading companies of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, particularly the famous East India Company, almost without restraint. He tolerated only banks, insurance companies, and corporations to construct canals, supply water, etc."—"Age," July 7th.

Now classes of men are determined in the actions of their material interests. There are no fundamental laws to keep competition alive when men's material interests force them to stifle competition as far as possible. The tendency is for the trustification of industry and to destroy free competition, and no "caustic criticism" can alter this trend. "There is a power that shapes our ends, rough hew them as we say," said Shakespeare. The understanding of such lies in the materialist conception of history.

In a review of a new edition of one of the latest vulgar economists, to wit, John A. Hobson's, "The Evolution of Modern Capitalism," the "Age" says:—

"Mr. Hobson is not a slave to economic doctrines. He hardly mentions the economic theories of the past and pays little or no attention to Smith himself. The salient fact of his new chapters, dealing with the industry of the twentieth century is the growth and power of the corporations which Adam Smith dreaded, and which he seemed to fear might mean the negation of a great deal of his teaching. (Smithsonian Economics). The tendency of all businesses for years past—especially those engaged in manufacture, trade,

transport and mining—has been towards the creation of large joint stock firms, employing larger numbers of workers, turning out increasing outputs and limiting free competition by various modes of regulation, co-operation and combination. The figures for Great Britain (given up to the last complete year before the war) are striking:—

Registered Companies in Great Britain.		
Year.	No.	Paid Up Capital.
1900	29,730	£1,622,641,416
1913	60,754	2,425,740,857

It is estimated that in 1907 the total British capital employed in manufacturing, mining, transport and distributive trades amounted to a figure between 4200 and 5000 millions, and that a little less than half of the total business of the country had by that time passed into the joint stock form. In America the same trend is equally striking."

In Capitalistic Imperialism competition is restricted to that in action between the different national groups of capitalists. Each group trying to oust the others in the world's markets. To commercial competition has been added political competition backed up with military power to enforce and support the demand for economic advantages in the smallest and backward countries, and to attempt to warn the other great national groups "off the grass."

To properly understand the revolution in China in 1912, and the counter-revolution taking place at the present juncture, is to watch the moves of the competing groups of Japanese, American, and British capitalists, for these are the forces that do the wire pulling.

"While in England trade associations have led to a complete amalgamation or trust, in Germany and Austria there has been a relatively loose federation. These organisations have in some cases gone beyond national to international combinations. 'In one way or another,' it is observed, on the authority of Macrosty, 'the world's trade in rail, tubes, nails, screws, sewing thread, bleaching powder, borax, nitrates, and tobacco is to a greater or less degree brought under international control, while, at least till lately, dynamite was so controlled, and repeated attempts have been made similarly to syndicate the whole steel trade.' The most distinctive feature of modern economic imperialism, however, has been, not the growth of ordinary commerce across political boundaries, but the increasing investment of capital in foreign countries. In 1914 British capital was invested abroad to the approximate amount of £3,500,000,000, French capital to the amount of £1,800,000,000, and German to the amount of £1,200,000,000. 'The modern investment system through joint stock enterprise,' says the author, 'has not only extended and depersonalised the modern business; it has given a dominant and determinant place in the business world to little groups of men in the great monetary centres who control and regulate the flows of capital and the credit system by which an increasing proportion of modern business is conducted.'—"Age."

It is these "little groups of (whom more will be said later) of men" who call the tune and whole nations dance or fight at their bidding. These groups are the real government of any country. Parliamentary government being merely the executive power acting in their interests. Keep these facts in mind, and all vulgar economists and capitalistic editors' suggestions, and plans to solve the problems of labor and capital, etc., on the basis of mutual interests, can be taken at their face value. They are efforts to groundwire the movement for labor's emancipation, and stop the clock of time's progress.

But hopeless is their task. We hope to show in the course of these lessons that the very forces that have carried capitalism to its present position, will also be the means of bringing the breakdown and ending of this modern hell.

(To be continued).

These facts, too, give rise, and have for centuries given rise to what is known as the Class Struggle—an incident of which is the present strike.

A strike is simply "a war, not necessarily of blood and bullets, but a war in the sense that it is a conflict between two contending interests, or classes of interests." Loyalty to the capitalist class in time of strike, as far as wage-earners are concerned, is simply DISLOYALTY of the worst nature TO THEIR OWN CLASS, whom they help to batter into

submission. Where does the MORAL right come in?

The wage-earner "loyalist" on the industrial battle-field occupies exactly the same position as the traitor on the military battle-field, who fires on his own comrades. In the former case, the "loyalist" is feted, and is honored by his enemy's newspapers; in the latter case, the same man is shot.

The working class in its upward climb since the era of Primitive Communism, has come through Chattel Slavery (under which system

Unlawful Associations Act.

WORKING CLASS ORGANISATIONS.

Resolved:—

That the Melbourne Branch of the Australian Socialist Party do not concur with the position put forth by "C.F.C." in the article "Danger Ahead," appearing in the "International Socialist" of August 18th.

Seeing that religious and political freedom in an embodiment of the Constitution to which the powers-that-be, no matter how much they may desire to interpret same to their own advantage, must bend the knee, no organisation aiming to alter society by the peaceful trial of strength at the ballot box can by any stretch of the imagination be classed as an unlawful association. (All political associations, such as the Liberal Party, Labor Party, Women's Political Association, Fretrade and Land Values League, etc., etc., are unregistered).

In the political class state, where the suffrage is in use, all political expressions, revolutionary and unrevolutionary, are perfectly in order AT ALL TIMES.

Despite the annoyances and victimisation that such organisations may be subject to in periods of stress; despite this and other trials, unnecessary to enumerate, such are due rather to their weakness numerically than to any CONSTITUTIONAL DEFECT.

As to the Workers' International Industrial Union, whose Preamble the A.S.P. endorse, the same thing applies. By calling upon the workers to organise on the political field as well as the industrial field, its agitation, education and organisation is open and above board. It seeks to remove the social wrong along the lines of civilisation and social evolution. Recognising the class struggle through which the workers must fight their way to victory, the W.I.I.U. recognises the need of the working class using their rights and powers politically through a revolutionary party of their own, in opposition to any and all capitalist parties.

The W.I.I.U. holds further that a healthy development towards the new social order requires, that THE WORKERS' STRENGTH SHOULD FORCE THE CAPITALIST CLASS TO OBSERVE ITS OWN LAWS OF SOCIETY, and to give full freedom to the exercise of the rights of the working class within present society. (Extract from the Manifesto of W.I.I.U.)

Seeing that there was a War Precautions Act already in existence, why did the Government go to the trouble of fashioning this Unlawful Associations Act to extend its scope, when they had almost unlimited powers under the said War Precautions Act, if it was not that the capitalistic class state must observe its own laws of society (though it does so grudgingly) by differentiating between forms of organisation that propose to forcibly alter society, and those whose education and propaganda is in line with the march of civilised man? Nothing more would please the powers-that-be today, if they could by any ambiguity of terms of law stop or hinder the education and propaganda of such organisations as the A.S.P. and the W.I.I.U.

We, knowing the correctness of our posture, are in no way perturbed as to who or what are included under the Unlawful Associations Act.

men, women and children were sold on the market stands), on through serfdom (in which the workers were tied to, and were sold with, the land and mines), and is now functioning under present system of "Wagedom." In the long continued struggles for the abolition of Slavery and Serfdom, who would justify the action of a chattel-slave or serf, who did anything which hindered his class in its struggles towards the light. Such a recreant chattel slave or serf is in the same position as our friend, the wage-earner "loyalist."

The workers who are loyal to the Government—the executive of the capitalist class—in the present strike, are in exactly the same position as Judas occupied some nineteen hundred years ago. Judas was a "loyalist." He was loyal to the High Priests when he betrayed his Comrade, Christ. Our present-day "loyalists" have no compunction in taking the extra wages and better working conditions their comrades bring them by means of their union organisations, and THEN for a few extra pieces of silver betray their own organisations to the Priests of Capitalism.

Driving Capital out of The Country

By J.M.G.

Another of these meaningless phrases that is flung at Socialists by Rip van Winkle opponents is, "You will drive Capital out of the country." The persons who use this catch phrase are only repeating parrot-like the dope the press is administering daily in the interests of the capitalists. If you ask these persons what capital is, they will, if adherents of the orthodox school of economists, trot out the old fables of the savage finding a fruit tree or becoming a capitalist by possessing a bow and arrows, a canoe or spear, or the modern capitalist who becomes a captain of industry by thrift, abstinence, business ability and the many other so-called virtues. If they know nothing of political economy, which is more probable, they stand like petrified immummies, mouth agape, as if they had got the shock of their lives.

The orthodox economists would have us believe that capital in its present form and mode of operation has existed for all time no matter what form of society existed. Yet the facts are that no matter what period we investigate, whether it be primitive savagery, the barbarian stage, the Greek republics, or the Roman empires, nothing like the form of our modern capitalism existed.

The capital that operated during these periods and right through feudalism down to the sixteenth century was merchants' capital and usurious capital.

This merchants' capital took thousands of years to extend its operations, which was confined to the sphere of circulating any surplus thrown off after the wants of the producers had been satisfied. It was parasitic in its operations and performed a different function in society to what modern industrial Capital performs.

Production during these periods and down to the sixteenth century was mainly production for use and not for profit.

The rise of the merchant towns of Europe, and the antagonism created by their conflicts with the guilds, ended in the power of the guild being broken at the beginning of the sixteenth century.

The merchant class could buy any kind of commodity; but the labour power of the workers they could not buy, and it took a century of struggle to bring about the breaking up of the guilds and the enslaving of the workers, making them dependent upon a master class, and thereby laying the foundation upon which was built our present industrial capitalism.

With the rise of industrial capital was eliminated the production of food to eat, clothes to wear, and houses to live in, giving place to a system of production for profit which is the "Alpha and Omega" of capitalism. This is the characteristic that distinguishes the modern form of capital from the forms that existed previously.

Thus the modern form of capital requires for its existence a complete separation of the workers from all property in the means by which they can make a living.

It maintains this separation of the workers from the tools of production, and continues to extend the process, bringing the workers more and more under its heel.

Socialist economists define capital as wealth used for the production of profit. The good of capital to its owner is that it produces articles of utility that exchanges for other commodities at a profit. All wealth is produced by labour, and when this wealth in the form of machinery, tools, etc., is used to create more wealth, it is called capital. Capital is not only produced by labour but would be useless without workers to keep it in repair and manipulate it to produce commodities at a profit.

When it is realised by our friends the Rip van Winkle that capital in the form of Land, Machinery, Tools, Railroads and rolling stock, and all other implements required to produce and distribute commodities, are of such a nature that it would be impossible to remove them, he will see the absurdity of such a phrase as "driving Capital out of the Country." The position is such that even the capitalists in mass could not sell out

The strike now operating in Australia and contemporary industrial upheavals in other countries, has again proved beyond the shadow of a doubt the truth of the irrefutable facts underlying the contentions of the Socialists—That class conscious industrial organisation with its reflection in political representation is the only means by which the working class can gain any immediate demands from the employing class, and the means by which they will

finally gain their emancipation.

Between the capitalist class and the working class, the exploiter and the exploited there is absolutely no common interest. The workers produce the wealth of the world while the capitalist class, a useless non-productive section of society, appropriate it.

The ramifications of capitalism have encircled almost every portion of the civilised world. The fundamental basis of the capitalistic system is wage slavery. The exploitation of the working class through the medium of the wage system is world wide. The system operates alike in the ice bound regions of Alaska and the sun-baked islands of the tropic seas. The inevitable result of capitalism is the same in all countries—a life of lascivious luxury for the few contrasted with a colorless life of never ending toil on a background of unemployment, poverty and prostitution, coupled with many other contributing factors that tend towards making the lot of the toiling millions an inhuman one.

Seeing that the same conditions prevail in all capitalised countries, the cause of the workers of the world is a common cause against a common enemy. For the working class the artificial barriers of nationality do not exist.

The catch cry of national honour, national sentiment, and so on is to our class a meaningless chimera, a device by which our ranks are kept divided and in a constant state of chaotic confusion.

This strike has proved (as others have done previously) the ineffectiveness and fallacy of craft union organisation as a weapon with which to fight the master class on the industrial field. It divides the workers into innumerable sections, thus depriving them of the concerted and co-ordinated mass action that is absolutely essential to the success of a strike. Craft unionism is based on the acceptance of the wage system; its slogan is "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay."

Let us examine this plausible talk of "a fair day's pay." The worker is obliged to sell or offer for sale the only commodity he possesses, that is, his power of exertion, labor power, this is purchased by the employing class at a price which provides the worker with sufficient of necessities of life for one day. For example, the wages of a worker for eight hours' labour is 10%, in about two hours he produces value in the shape of commodities equal to 10%, there is still six hours of labour time on hand, during which the worker produces further commodities, which are appropriated by the employer as his share, for doing nothing. If at the end of the eight hours the worker has produced commodities to the value of 40%,

their interests in the industries, as there would be no one to buy even if there was money enough.

Just imagine the capitalist removing his capital; the Corner House crowd removing the mines with all the machinery, the same of the Barnato group of mines, it would be a picture for the gods to see Solly Joel, Sir G. Albu or Lie Phi struggling with their shares, or Billy Hosken attempting to carry off Hosken Buildings, or part of the dynamite factory, or the proprietors of the "Daily Mail" or "The Star" trying to remove their machinery and buildings to a more congenial climate.

No, my friends, the thing is absurd. It is the capital of those shibboleths disdained by the capitalist class to frighten the unthinking section of the community into believing that the capitalist class is indispensable to society.—"The Internationalist," South Africa.

Facts and Fallacies.

W.J.T.

which is the "fair day's wage," the 10%, or the full value of his labor power?

The craft unions are quite content to patch and plaster up the present system, by means of arbitration courts and other methods of conciliation. They exist only by the consent of the master class (registration) who quickly cancel their license, and brand them as "illegal associations" if they show any signs of waking up to their true position.

The paradoxical position in the present strike is, that one craft union is scabbing on another and rendering their individual efforts futile. The electricians of the power houses remained "loyal" (that is to say, they took the side of the master class in an effort to crush their fellow workers), thus supplying the power to run the tram service, city lighting, etc. The marine engineers, masters, firemen and deckhands engaged in the ferry service remained neutral. The neutrals, like the "loyalists," took up the cudgel in defence of the master class. In the industrial fight there can be no state of neutrality, for he who is not with us is against us.

That craft organisation can be of no benefit to the workers is clearly illustrated by the attitude adopted by the Government towards it. The following excerpt from a statement published in the "Herald" it needs no comment:—

"It is generally known that the Cabinet has given earnest consideration to the question of Public Service industrial organisation, after the strike. It has never entertained for one moment the idea of one big union, however. Although the ideas of Ministers have not yet taken concrete shape, it may be taken for granted that whatever encouragement the Government is able to give will be given to the organisation of small craft unions, representing the many and varied sections of the work, especially in the railway and tramway service. The idea will be for each of the sectional awards which have been secured to remain in force for the members of these sectional or craft unions, who will get registration under the Arbitration Act in the place of the unions now concerned in the strike, whose registrations have been cancelled."

"Referring to the matter generally last night, in reply to the statement that 'one big union' would have the support of the Government, Mr. Fuller said: The Government is not in any way a party to the formation of any new railway union. It is anxious that all railway and other State employees should be, from a union standpoint, reorganised in some new way. It does not desire that non-union labour should work in Government establishments, and feels confident that, as a result of this strike, there will be a definite move to form new unions representing the different branches, particularly of the railway service, on some basis that will prevent them from being dragged into strikes in the future."

When the workers are organised along the lines of revolutionary industrial unionism, then the strike will be of some benefit both as an offensive and defensive weapon, inasmuch as the carrying out of an industrial strike will be of such a nature as to instantly paralyse the productive and commercial system of the country. Our firms in the future must be short, sharp and decisive. Remember, at a long drawn game of waiting the boss has it on you every time. The worker starves first, in fact, it can be laid down as axiomatic truth, that the duration of a strike is in inverse ratio to the workers' food supply.

The industrial conditions in other countries at the present moment, proves conclusively that the fight of the working class is international; despite the fact that labor misleaders are endeavouring to blind the workers to the issue. The methods adopted by the master class in suppressing strikes are remarkably alike. In Spain a general strike has lately been in progress, it was broken by the military, the "Sun" commenting on the matter waxed quite enthusiastic and under a portrait of the Spanish Premier affixed the following "pearl."

SENOR DATO,

"Premier of Spain, who set on his strike with the aid of machine-guns."

The press has announced that a big strike in America has failed, but there is reason to believe that it has not failed. The favourite weapon of the American capitalist class for the settling of industrial disputes is the military, armed with machine guns and Winchester rifles. In the Bayonne and Pittsburg strikes recently, and in countless other cases previously, the military have mowed down defenceless strikers both men and women, all for the "greater glory" of the Republic.

"Reuter's correspondent at Zurich states that 4000 smiths have struck in the munitions factories at Prague (Bohemia). The military authorities have arrested 300 of them and compelled them to resume."

Even the "Huns" and their confederates have an internal industrial war to wage.

The Russian working class are in the seventh heaven of industrial delight since the revolution, the following cable is a good indication of prevailing conditions: LONDON, Monday Night.

"Prompt Government action has settled the Moscow strike. The military were called out, and M. Kerensky telegraphed that he was resolved instantly to suppress any disorder."

The same cry of "military called out" and strikers murdered in all countries.

The conditions relative to industrial matters of the various countries engaged in the war, have a marked similarity. The following excerpt is from "The Spur" (London).

"(1) Anti-militarist agitation suppressed continually. Appearance of police officers on socialist meeting platform. No right of street meeting. Strike overcome by declaration of martial law. Troops engaged to murder strikers during industrial unrest. Political demonstrations charged down by cavalry. (2) Under the Millerand-Berry law. All young people under twenty, who engage in anti-militarist or political propaganda, or strike meetings, are sent, first, to three months imprisonment, or receive an equivalent sentence. They are sent, on coming up for military service, to join regiments in Africa, reserved for those expelled from the army." This amounts to military imprisonment and exile. It means that armed assaults, burglary and hoodlums are less punishable than Socialist propaganda.

"Germany—

"(1) As in France. (2) Outrages made in 1912 to the Government to limit further the right of combination on the part of the workers. Strike breakers to be protected, and trade union organisations to be prohibited from picketing. Under the special regulations of the industrial law, for minor offences usually punishable with a small fine, a striker is sent to a long term of imprisonment."

Australia is well ahead of Germany with despotic legislation aimed at the suppression of anti-militarist propaganda, militant working class organisations, and any movement that has a class conscious tendency including strikes. We have the Defence Act, which contains a clause allowing the Government to use working class military conscripts to "quell industrial disturbances." Then there is the War Precautions Act which invests the Minister of Defence with powers that would turn the ex-Czar of Russia green with envy. It includes imprisonment by indictment without trial. Again we have the "Illegal Associations Act," a Federal law, and the "Unlawful" — a State law, and the Industrial Bill which makes striking a criminal act. Truly, our "free democracy" holds the record for the number of oppressing laws hurled at the workers.

The conditions existing in Serbia form a study in paradoxes. The workers of that grand little country are fighting like heroes for the preservation of their lib-

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Facts and Fallacies

Continued from page 3.

erties which are as follows:—

"Servia—

"One generation of workers after another go miserably to the ground. Prior to the Balkan war breaking out, the Servian employer mercilessly attacked the trade union organisations. Since then continual doses of martial law have played havoc with them. The Metal Workers' Federation conducted a number of strikes in 1912, biggest being in Belgrade. It lasted six weeks, the employers spending £3970 in that time to defeat the strikers who were starved into submission. Factories are modern and fitted with the newest and most scientific plants, but without any hygienic institutions.

Capitalism is international, therefore the weapon to be adopted for its overthrow must operate internationally.

THE OVERTHROW OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM RESTS ON THE ABOLITION OF WAGE SLAVERY. THIS CAN ONLY BE BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE WORKERS OWNING AND CONTROLLING THE MEANS OF PRODUCTION.

A Shorter Workday.

CAPITALISTS GET CHIEF BENEFIT OF

That the shortening of the workday accrues to the benefit of the employer as conditions obtain today is coming more and more to be recognised. The shorter day, within limits, of course, results in a greater intensity of labor on the part of the workers, with increased efficiency, and consequently with an enlargement of the output. Which brings bigger profits to the employer.

So far, only a few studies have been made of the effects of the shorter workday, which at present generally means the 8-hour day. Of the few there are the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has summarised four, which are of particular interest as representing experiences in different industries and in different countries.

(The first is from a report on conditions of employment in the iron and steel industry in the United States; S. Doc. No. 110, 62nd Cong., 1st sess., Vol. III, p. 187.

The second is from Ernst Abbe's "Die Volkswirtschaftliche Bedeutung der Verkürzung des industriellen Arbeitstages; Jena, 1901. Digest in Goldmark's "Fatigue and Efficiency," New York, 1912, pp. 155-166.

Third:—L. G. Fromont: "Une Experience industrielle de reduction de la journee de travail"; Brussels, Leipzig, etc., 1906. Digest in Goldmark's book named above.

Fourth:—"Eight Hours for Laborers on Government Work," a report of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor to the House Committee on Labor. Washington, 1905, pp. 78-81).

The four cases summarised are the following:—

Commonwealth Steel Co., Granite City, Ill.

The workmen in the open-hearth department and boiler room were changed, in 1912, from a system of two 12-hour shifts to one of three 8-hour shifts. To do this required increasing the number of men in the open-hearth department from 22 to 33, but in the boiler room it was necessary to increase the number of men only from 8 to 10. The hourly wage rates of all the men concerned were increased an average of 20 per cent. Exactly the same products were made under the two systems of working hours.

Under the 8-hour system, in spite of the increase in hourly rates, there was a slight decrease in the cost of production, owing to the higher efficiency of the workers. There were very considerable reductions in the amount of pig iron charred and in the amount of fuel oil consumed. Also the quality of the product was very much improved.

Zeiss Optical Works, Jena, Germany.

The operation of the works was changed from a 9-hour to an 8-hour basis in 1910. In studying the effect of this change upon efficiency, comparison is made between the earnings of piece-workers during the year preceding the change and the year following. The comparison involves 233 workmen. All were excluded whose output might have been affected by special causes such as ill-health, and also all who had not been in the firm's employ for at least four years and who were

A. S. P.

NEWS AND NOTES.

MELBOURNE BRANCH.

The recently formed propaganda committee at a meeting on August 26th, got through much important business. They recognise the necessity of educating the working class to a sense of the class struggle and the objective of the A.S.P. The propaganda of this committee will be an effective answer to the oft-repeated question, "Why don't you Socialists do something and not talk so much?"

It was decided to arrange a class-conscious course of four lessons, to be known as C.C.C. Also that two economic classes be formed, one elementary, the other advanced, and a chairman's class in conjunction.

A list of Sunday lectures to be placed in all papers to be sold.

That all organisations be circularised by means of printed circular containing a list of subjects on which this branch is prepared to supply speakers.

Street meetings at Richmond and elsewhere will be held with system and regularity, and Yarra Bank meetings will be held as circumstances warrant. The list of speakers includes: Comrades M. Finlay, P. Murphy, G. Jeffery, E. Hanks, Phil. Halfpenny, Norman Anderson, and W. Harris.

Printed matter for sale and distribution will consist of leaflets dealing with current events. It was also suggested that the following subjects be dealt with in leaflets:

Unemployment, The Labor Party, Arbitration, Thrift, Our Objective, Summer Time and Sweat, and pamphlets, with an eye on Australian conditions.

This business of the propaganda committee was received and endorsed at a meeting of members on August 28th.

That splendid educational pamphlet, "The Awakening of Labor," issued some weeks ago by this branch, is to be brought out again for distribution amongst the working-class at the present crisis in their industrial conditions. The second edition will consist of five thousand copies, and it is proposed to sow it broadcast.

Those who heard Mr. P. J. Mullaney lecture on "Alcohol and the Human Body" might have resolved seriously "never to touch it again." For the speaker who gave a scientific exposition of the effects of alcohol on the stomach, liver, and other organs of the human body, drew a terrible picture. The drunkard suffers from "hob-nailed liver, cancer of the stomach"; his vitality becomes permanently lowered. White corpuscles in his blood (whose function is to attack bacteria, and deal with them), when they encounter the smallest

not at least 22 years of age. Piece rates remained the same.

Under the 8-hour system, as compared with the superseded 9-hour system, the hourly earnings of piece-workers increased 15.2 per cent. This represents a greater daily output than before, inasmuch as a piece-worker, piece rates remaining the same, need only increase his hourly earnings 12½ per cent. in order to produce as much, and thus obtain the same earnings under an 8-hour day as under a 9-hour day. Moreover, the increase of 16.2 per cent. referred to was fairly uniform for different occupations and for workers of different age groups.

Engis Chemical Works, Near Liege, Belgium.

Engaged in the manufacture of zinc blende and sulphuric acid. Principal employment of labor, oven tending. Started in 1888 with system of two 12-hour shifts. Changed four years later to the plan of three 8-hour shifts. Under the 12-hour shifts there were 10 hours of actual work. Under the 8-hour shifts there were 7½ hours of actual work. The furnaces were thus operated 22½ hours out of the 24, as against 20 hours previously.

Within six months after the change was effected the workers had equalled in 7½ hours the previous output of 10 hours, and the daily earnings of 7½ hours work equalled the amount formerly earned in 10 hours. The total cost of production was reduced 20 per cent., and the quality of the output improved. Also it was noted that the morale of the workers, as well as their physique, was raised to a much higher level.

Salford Iron Works, Manchester, England.

Engaged in the manufacture of steam engines, pumping machinery, electrical machinery, etc. Number of employees, 1,200, about one-third being piece-workers. For the 6 years prior to 1893 the hours of labor had

party of alcohol, absolutely refuse to work, and go on strike. Thus the germs of syphilis, pneumonia, and tuberculosis attack drunkards and frequently with fatal effect.

The lecturer, understanding the principles of Socialism, and while deploring the effects of drink on millions of the working class, did not consider it was the cause of universal poverty and disease, as the average temperance lecturer usually does.

J. M. Press Corr.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Indoor meetings have had to be given up owing to the strike and lighting restrictions, but splendid outdoor meetings are being carried on, and the last one held on Sunday night, 2nd September, in Liverpool Street, was a record. The speakers were Comrades W. Gray, A. S. Reardon, and C. Jackson. The meeting was honored by a special attendance of police and a big crowd; also what pleased us best was the fact that we completely sold out of papers and had to make a journey to headquarters for more pamphlets.

Paper sales have been especially encouraging lately; each week the circulation is steadily increasing. On Sunday, September 2nd, 25 dozen were sold on the Domain before 1 o'clock. It is encouraging to sellers and workers on the paper to see their efforts attended with success. The Newtown Comrades are as usual giving up their best help and support in propaganda work, literature and paper sales. The "disloyalist," who are, of course, still on strike, are preventing our usual Monday night's speaker's and economic class, but we intend to re-commence directly things settle down somewhat.

The benefit social and dance in aid of Com. Wagner, is being held on Wednesday, 12th of September, and we anticipate a good attendance.

It is a pity that it has been arranged in such troublous times, but we can only do our best and number of tickets are being sold, even if the buyers are not all able to attend.

It is needless to say that we invite all members and friends to come along.

M. REARDON, Secretary.

YOU WANT SOCIALISM.

Because it will make the interest of each the interest of all.

Because it will provide conditions under which each may have the best of food.

Because it will enable each to have the best of raiment.

Because it will ensure each the best of dwellings.

Because it will guarantee to all the best of instruction.

Because it will provide amusement for all.

Because the children will have the opportunity of developing all their faculties, regardless of wealth.

Because humanity will cease the struggle against each other for wealth, but will wage their struggle against the force of nature for wealth.

been 54 per week during the first part of the period and 53 during the latter part. In 1893 a 48-hour week was introduced, and careful records kept of costs and output for a year. No change occurred in the character of the work done, and the wages remained the same as before.

At the end of the year's time it was found that the amount of output for the year was slightly greater than the average of the six preceding years. Saving was effected in "wear and tear," fuel, etc., which balanced an increase of 0.4 per cent. in wage cost. The reduction of hour also led to a re-arrangement of working time. Previously it had been the custom of employees to have two meal periods at the plant, breakfast and lunch. With the shorter day the men had breakfast before coming to work. This was regarded as beneficial to the men and to their families, as well as to the work.

The shorter work-day, it may be added, is actually beneficial to the workers only if they do not expend as much or more energy in the shorter period than before. Otherwise the additional leisure gained is simply used in recuperating from the strain of intense labor. The real gain is where the hours are fewer and the workers do not speed up, or if they can speed up without injury to their health, get the advantage in increased pay.

Only a strong union of the workers themselves in the industries could accomplish such a gain. When the capitalists volunteer to be generous, there is always a "nigger in the woodpile."

—"The Weekly People," New York.

TO UNATTACHED SUPPORTERS.

Whoever you are, if you believe in Scientific Socialism, you must recognise the need for organisation. Why not set a good example to the workers whom you come in contact with, and whom we know you try to educate, by joining up with the A.S.P.

If there is no BRANCH in your locality, you can become a MEMBER AT LARGE, and thus become a REAL LIVE WIRE.

For further information, drop a line to the General Secretary, A.S.P., 115 Goulburn Street, Sydney.

BRANCH DIRECTORY.

Any branch desiring matter published under the above heading, should write clearly what is needed, and forward same to this office.

BROKEN HILL.

Socialist Hall, Sulphide St.

All rebels making their way to the "Hill" will receive a welcome at the above address.

MELBOURNE BRANCH.

47 Victoria St., Melbourne.

Library and Reading Room for members. Lectures held every Sunday Evening.

Economic Class every Wednesday evening. Visitors welcomed.

MT. LARCOM.

Secretary, Chas. Jacobsen, Mt. Larcom, via Gidston.

NEWTOWN BRANCH.

Hall, Hatte's Arcade, King St., Newtown.

Library for Members. Business meeting held alternate Thursday evening.

Propaganda meetings held every Saturday and Sunday Evenings, at Newtown Bridge.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Hall: 369 Pitt St., City.

Library for members. Lecture every Sunday evening. Debating class held every Monday evening. Business meeting every alternate Thursday evening. Dance every Friday evening.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Ancient Lowly—C. Osborne Ward; 2 vols., cloth, 16/-; posted 16/6. Ancient Society—Lewis H. Morgan; cloth, 6/-; posted, 6/3.

Britain for the British—R. Blatchford; paper cover, 6d.; posted, 7d.

Capital—Karl Marx; 3 vols., 8/- each; posted, 8/6.

Charles Darwin and Karl Marx—E. Aveling; paper, 3d.; posted, 4d.

Economic Discontent—Father T. J. Hagerty; paper, 2d.; posted, 3d.

Economics of Socialism—H. M. Hyndman; cloth, 3/6; posted, 3/9.

Human Slaughter House—W. Lamazus; paper, 1/6; posted, 1/8.

Introduction to Socialism—N. A. Richardson; paper, 3d.; posted, 4d.

Merrie England—R. Blatchford; paper, 6d.; posted, 7d.

Mutual Aid—P. Kropotkin; paper, 1/6; posted, 1/8.

New Socialism, The—R. R. La-Monte; paper, 6d.; posted, 7d.

Put up the Sword—Adela Pankhurst; paper, 2/6; posted, 2/9.

Positive School of Crimonology—Enrico Ferri; cloth, 2/-; posted, 2/2.

Principles of Scientific Socialism—Rev. Vaie; paper, 1/-; posted, 1/1.

Right to be Lazy—P. Lafargue; paper, 6d.; posted, 7d.

Socialism the Goal of Civilisation—paper, 2d.; posted, 3d.

IMPORTANT.

When ordering literature it is well to add the cost of registration (3d.). This is necessary to guarantee delivery.

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